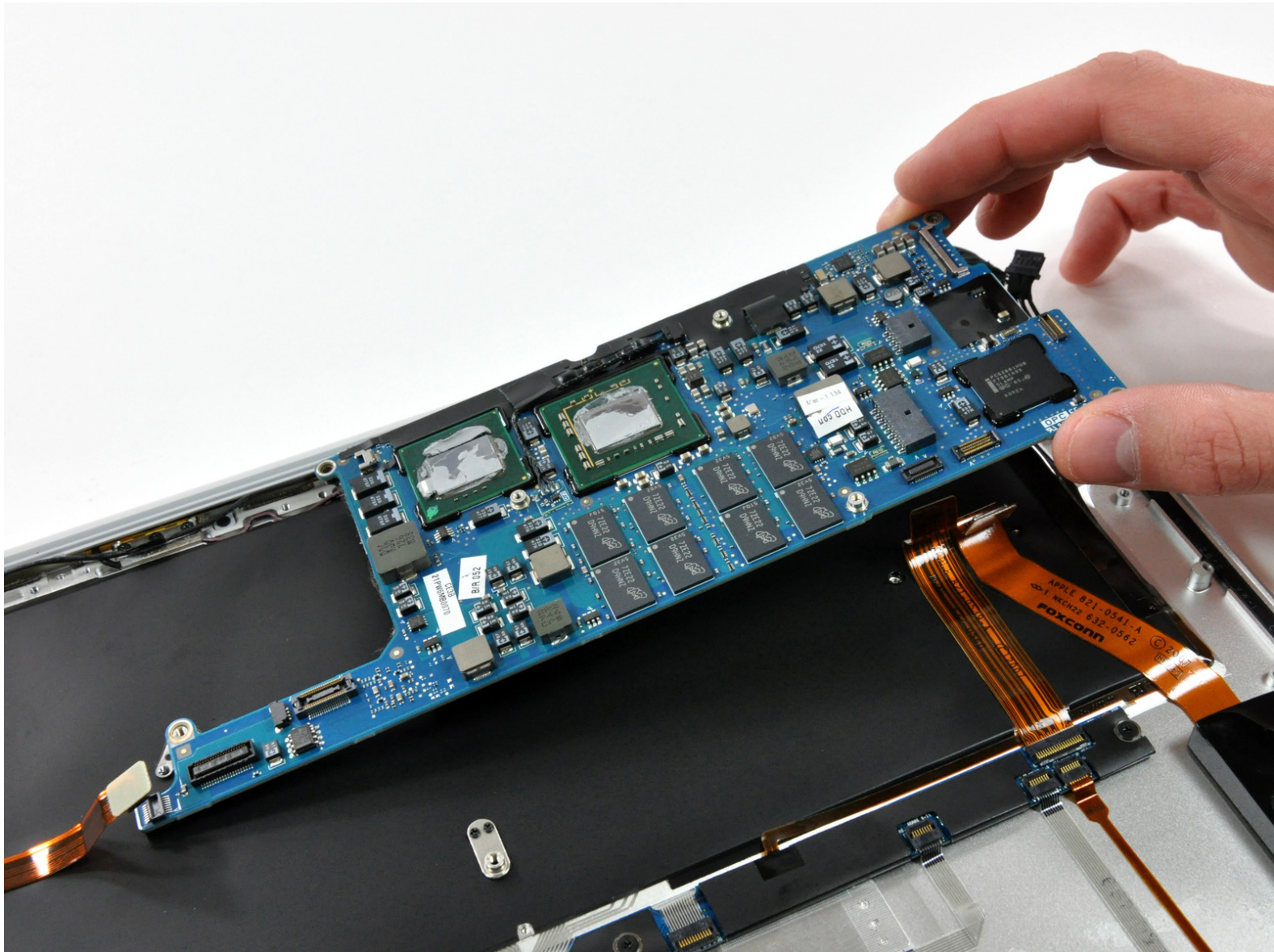




MacBook Air Models A1237 and A1304 Logic Board Replacement

Replace the logic board on your 13" MacBook Air (models A1237 and A1304).

Written By: Walter Galan



INTRODUCTION

Like brain surgery? Use this guide to replace the mind of your computer.



TOOLS:

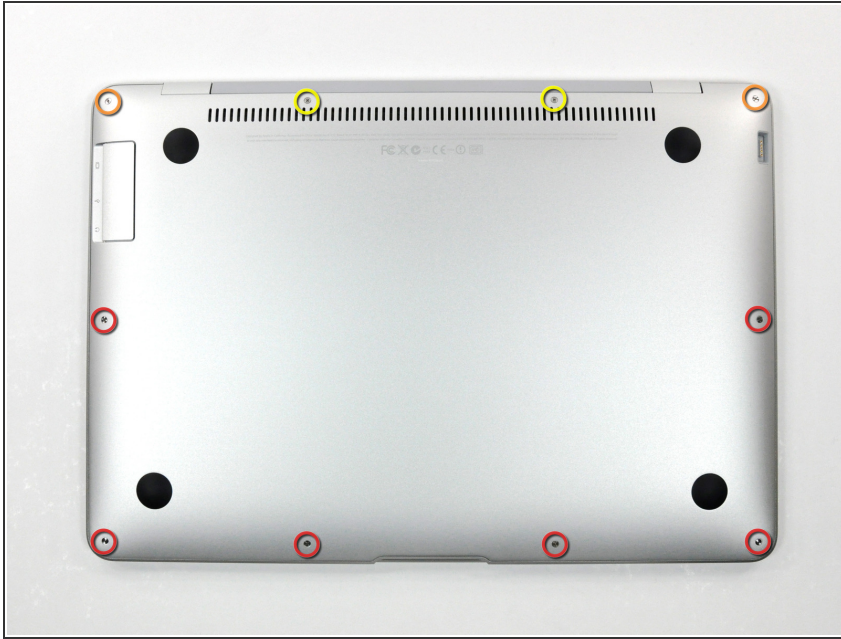
- [Arctic Silver ArctiClean](#) (1)
- [Arctic Silver Thermal Paste](#) (1)
- [Phillips #00 Screwdriver](#) (1)
- [Spudger](#) (1)



PARTS:

- [MacBook Air 1.6 GHz \(Original\) Logic Board](#) (1)
- [MacBook Air 1.8 GHz \(Original\) Logic Board](#) (1)
- [MacBook Air 1.86 GHz \(Mid 2009\) Logic Board](#) (1)
- [MacBook Air 2.13 GHz \(Mid 2009\) Logic Board](#) (1)
- [MacBook Air 1.6 GHz \(Late 2008\) Logic Board](#) (1)

Step 1 — Lower Case



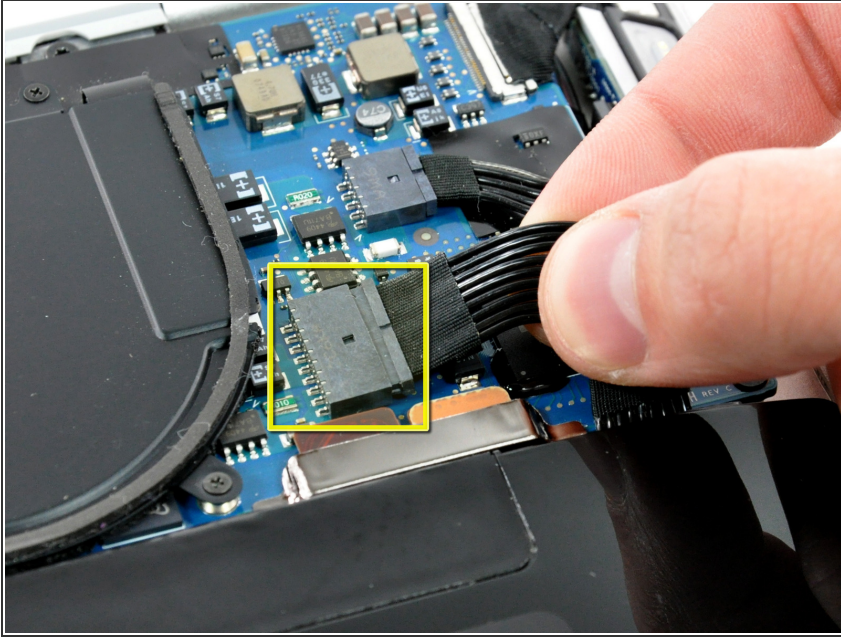
- Remove the following 10 screws securing the lower case to the Air:
 - Six 2.8 mm Phillips screws.
 - Two 3.8 mm Phillips screws.
 - Two 5.4 mm Phillips screws.

Step 2



- Slightly lift the lower case near the vents and push it toward the rear of the computer to free the mounting tabs.

Step 3 — Battery



- Disconnect the battery connector by pulling it straight out of its socket.

Step 4



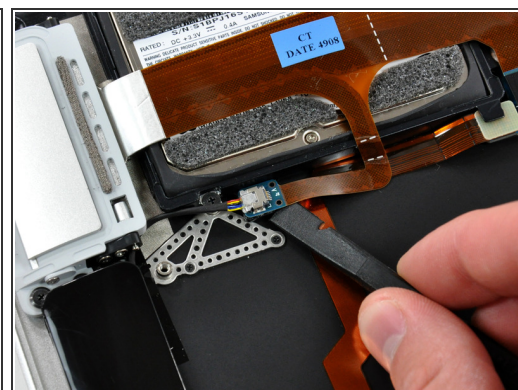
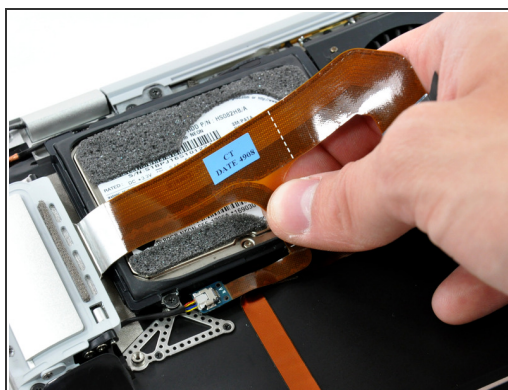
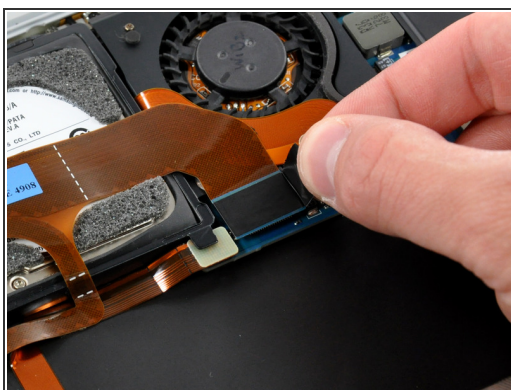
- Remove the following nine screws securing the battery to the Air:
 - Four 2.9 mm Phillips.
 - Four 3.8 mm Phillips.
 - One 7.2 mm Phillips.

Step 5



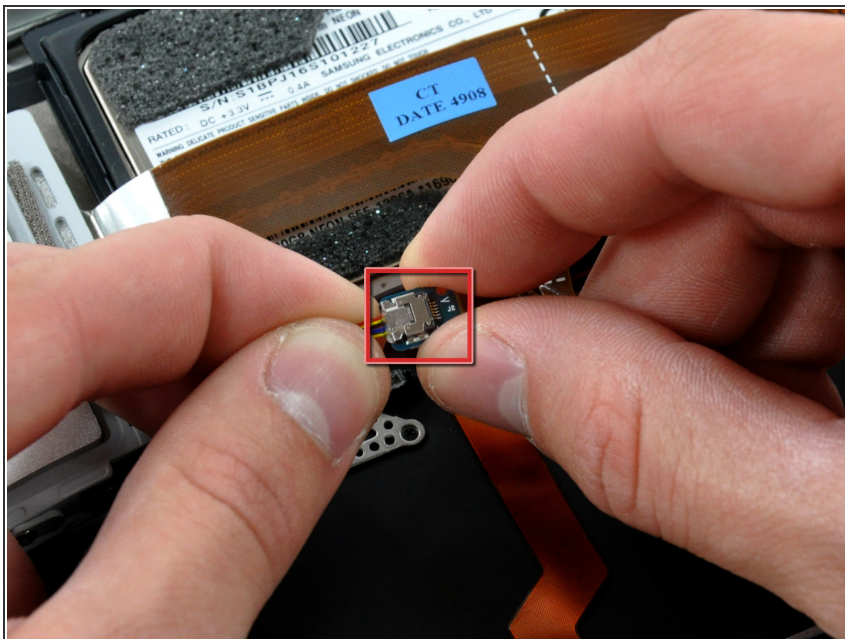
- Lift the battery out of the Air.

Step 6 — Hard Drive



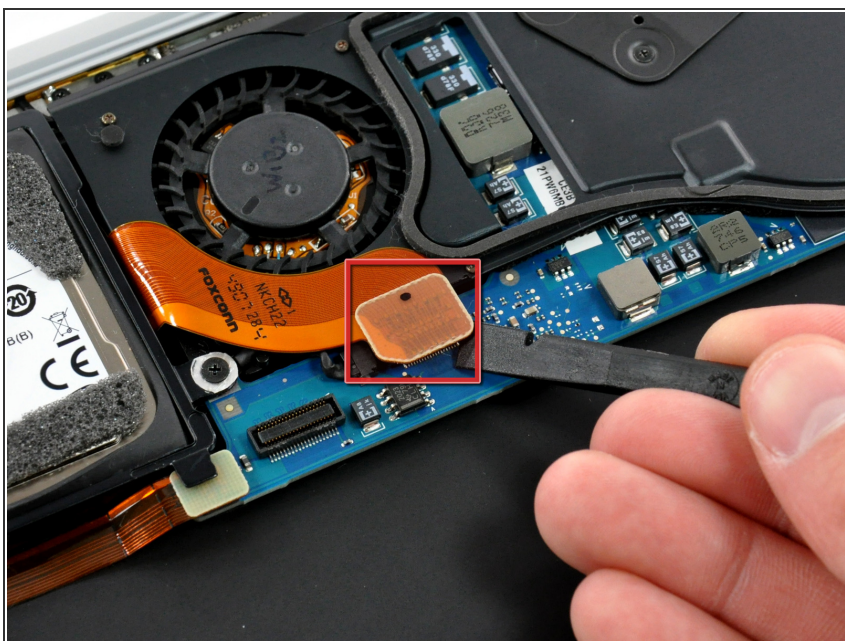
- Disconnect the port hatch ribbon cable from the logic board by pulling it straight up by its black pull tab.
- Pull the audio out ribbon cable off the adhesive securing it to the upper case.
- Use a spudger to pry the audio out ribbon cable connector board off the hard drive bracket.

Step 7



- Disconnect the audio out cable from its socket on the port hatch ribbon cable.

Step 8



- Use a spudger to pry the hard drive cable connector up off the logic board.

Step 9



- Use the sharp end of a spudger to de-route the microphone cable from the hard drive bracket.
- Remove the cosmetic screw cover from the adhesive securing it to the hard drive bracket.

Step 10



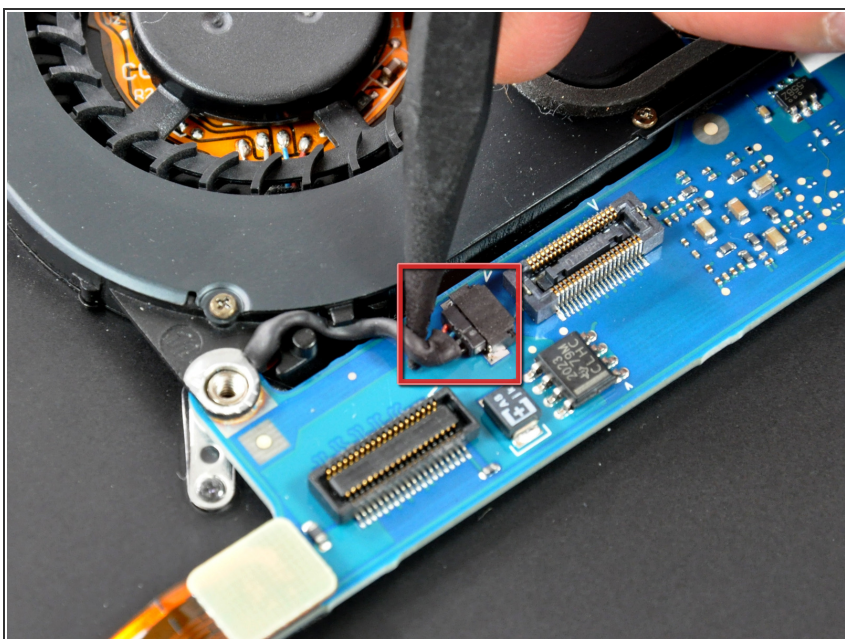
- Remove the four Phillips screws securing the hard drive assembly to the upper case:
 - Two 4.7 mm screws.
 - Two 3.9 mm screws.

Step 11



- Lift the hard drive assembly out of the upper case.

Step 12 — Heat Sink



- Use the tip of a spudger to pull the fan cable connector straight away from its connector on the logic board.

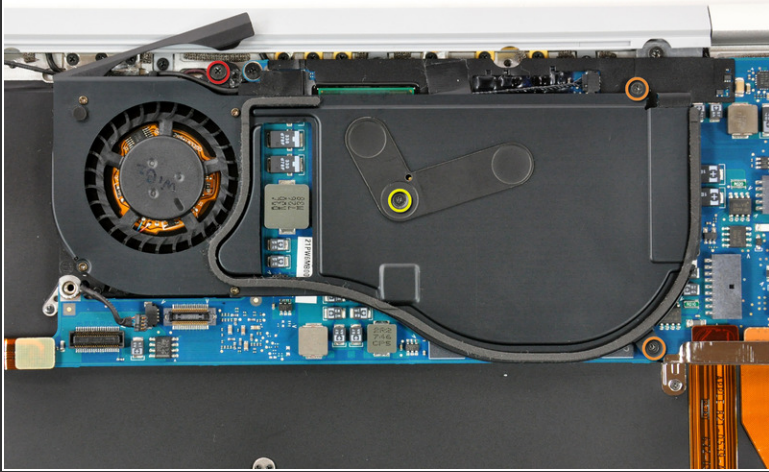
Step 13



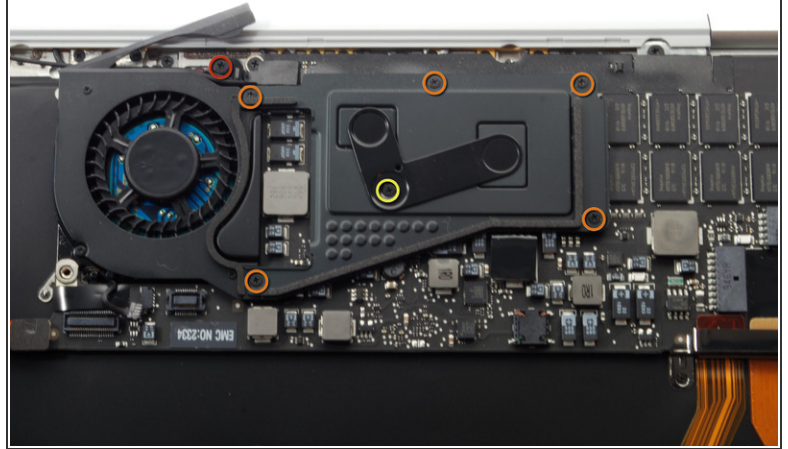
- Use the tip of a spudger to move the cosmetic fan cover aside.

Step 14

A1237

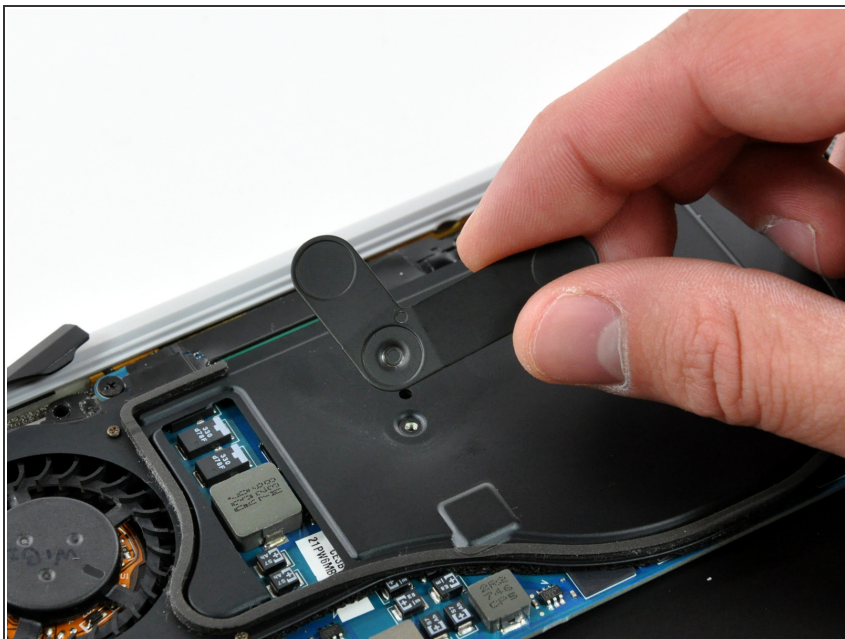


A1304



- ❗ If you have the original version of the MacBook Air (A1237), refer to picture 1. Remove the following screws securing the heat sink to the logic board:
- One 5.9 mm Phillips screw.
 - Two 1.9 mm Phillips screws.
 - One 1.9 mm Phillips screw.
- ❗ If you have the A1304 version of MacBook Air, refer to picture 2. Remove the following screws securing the heat sink to the logic board:
- One 5.0 mm Phillips screw
 - Five 1.9 mm Philips screws.
 - One 2.5 mm Phillips screw.

Step 15



- Lift the processor clamp off the heat sink.

Step 16



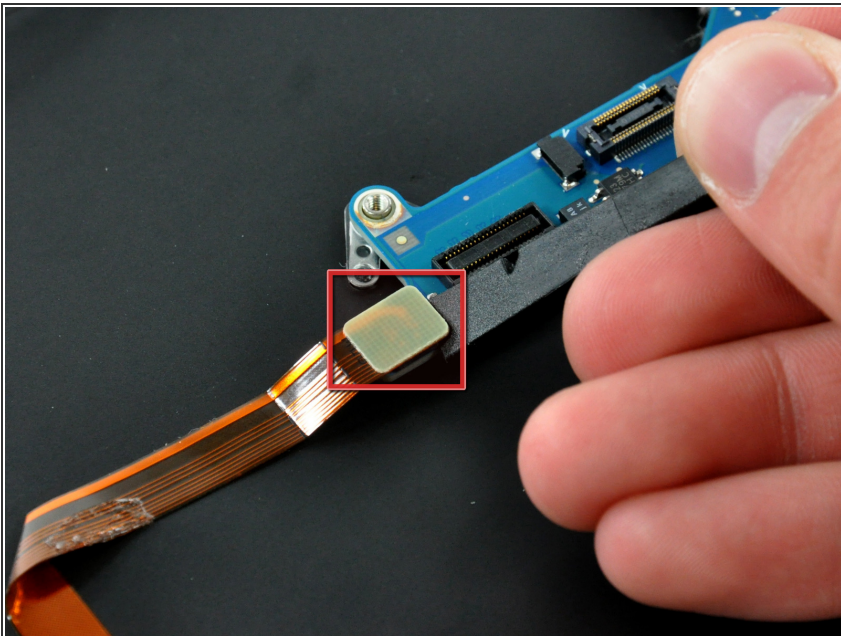
- Deroute the microphone cable away from the channel in the fan.

Step 17



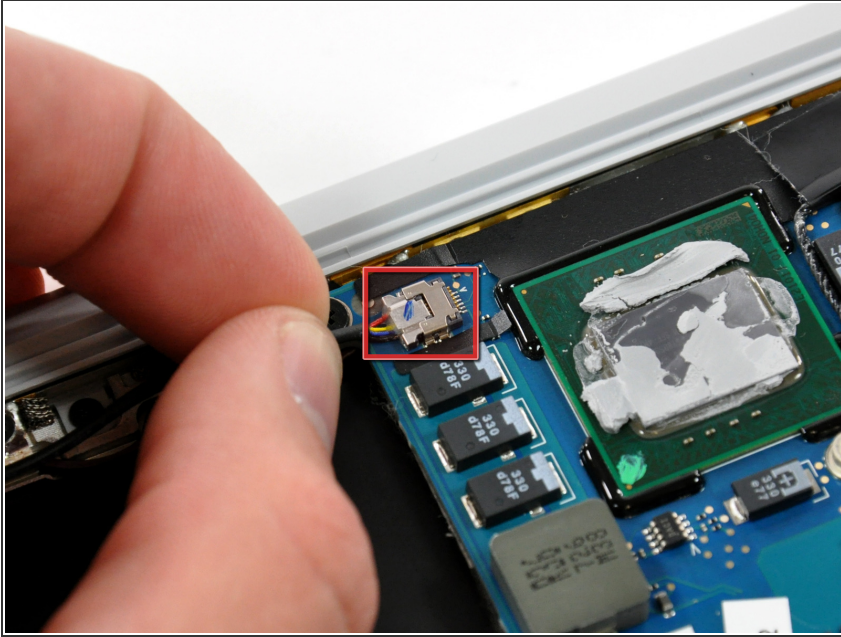
- Lift the heat sink up off the logic board.
- ⓘ Be mindful of the microphone cable when lifting the heat sink, as it can get tangled on the top edge of the fan.
- ⚠ When you mount the heat sink back onto the logic board, be sure to apply a new layer of thermal paste. We have a [guide](#) that makes replacing the thermal paste easy.

Step 18 — Logic Board



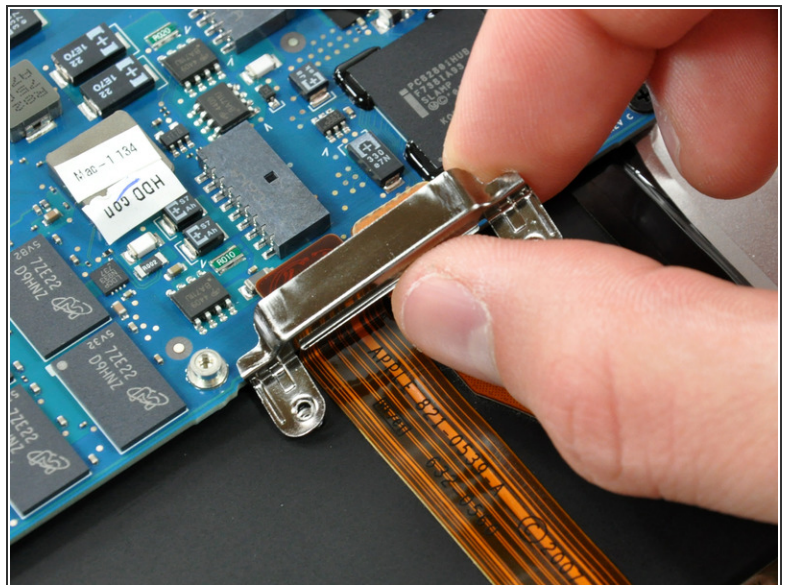
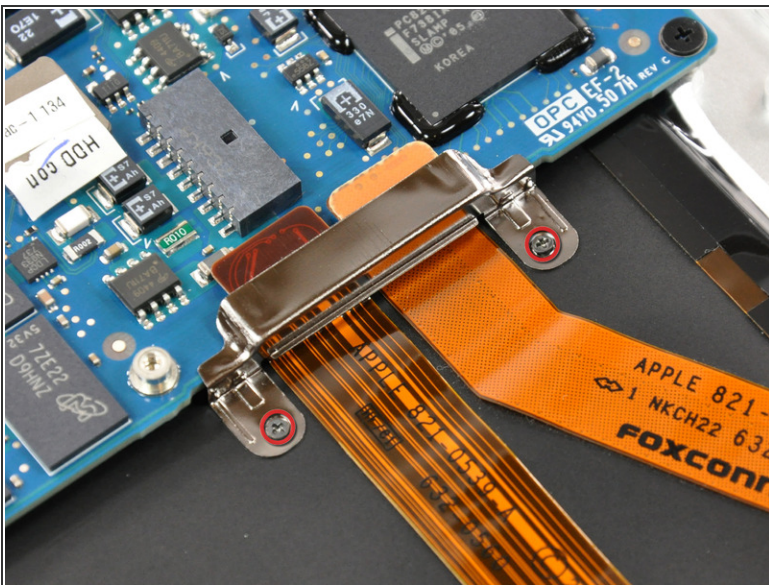
- Use a spudger to pry the audio cable connector up off the logic board.

Step 19



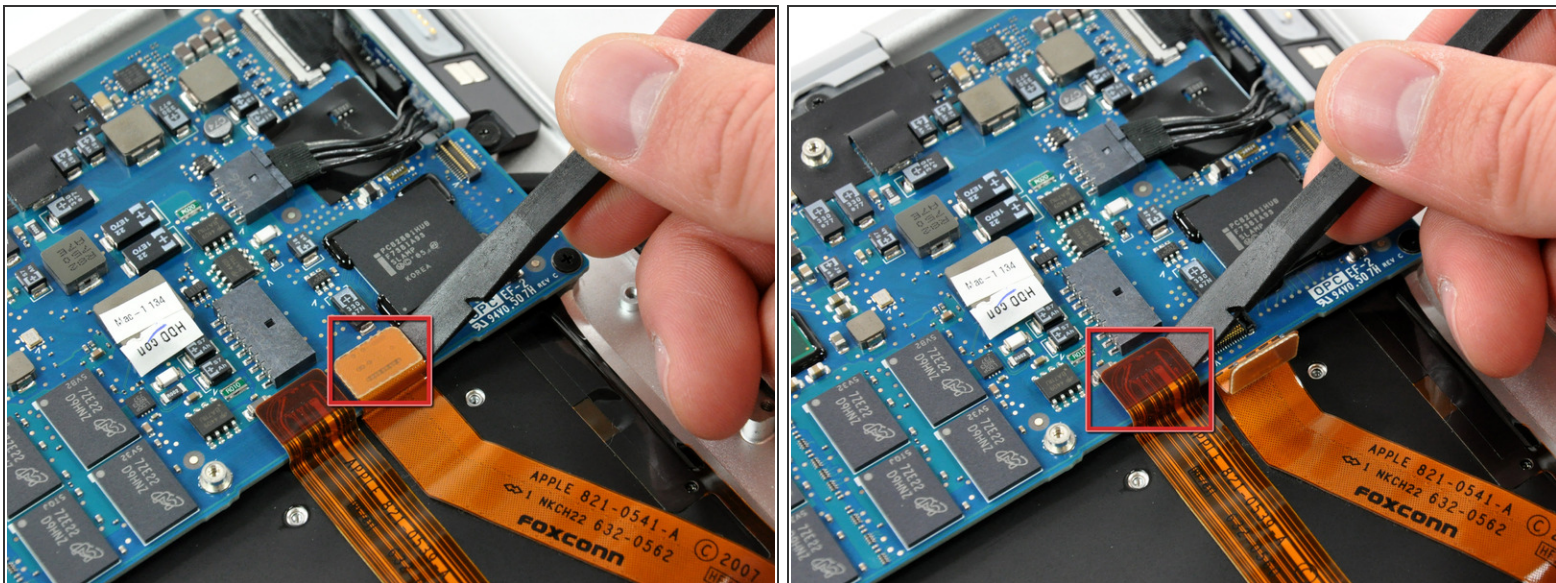
- ❗ If present, remove the small piece of black tape covering the microphone cable connector.
- Disconnect the microphone cable by pulling its connector straight away from the socket on the logic board.

Step 20



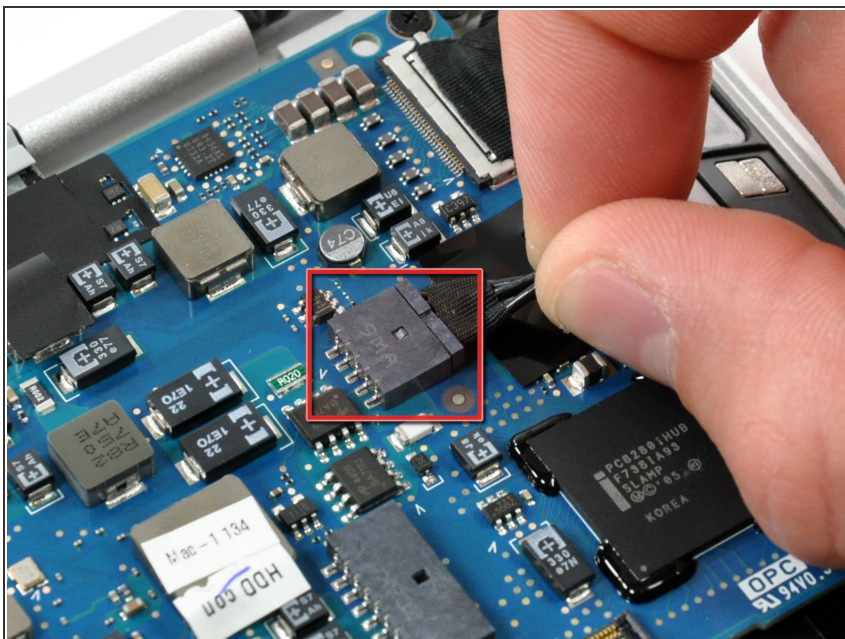
- Remove the two small Phillips screws securing the logic board bracket to the upper case.
- Lift the logic board bracket out of the upper case.

Step 21



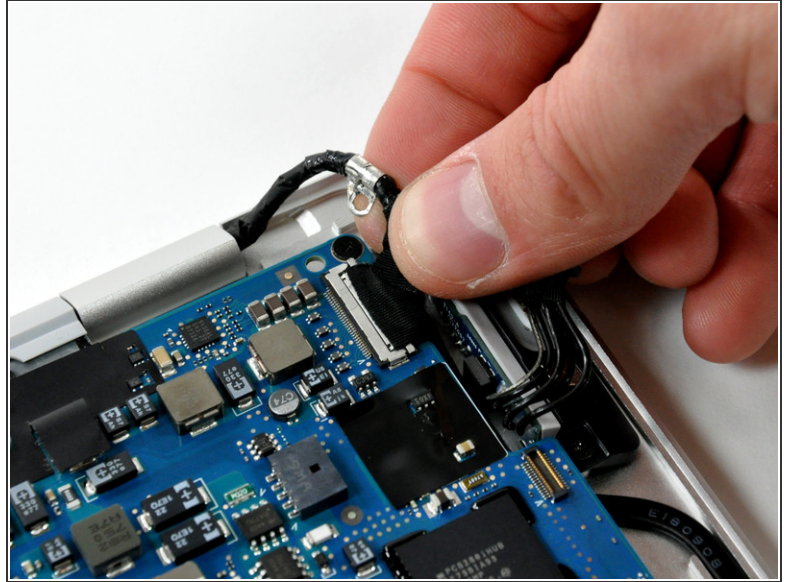
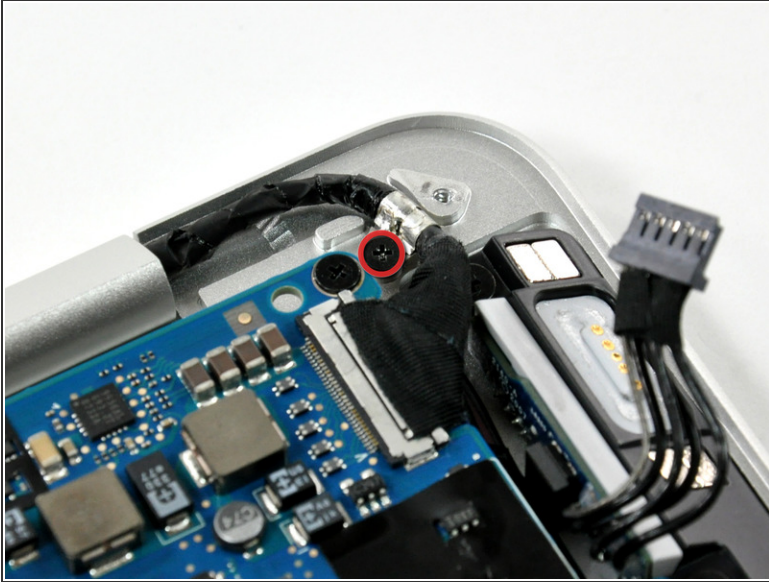
- Use a spudger to pry the AirPort/Bluetooth and trackpad control cable connectors up off the logic board.

Step 22



- Disconnect the DC-In cable by pulling its connector straight away from the socket on the logic board.

Step 23



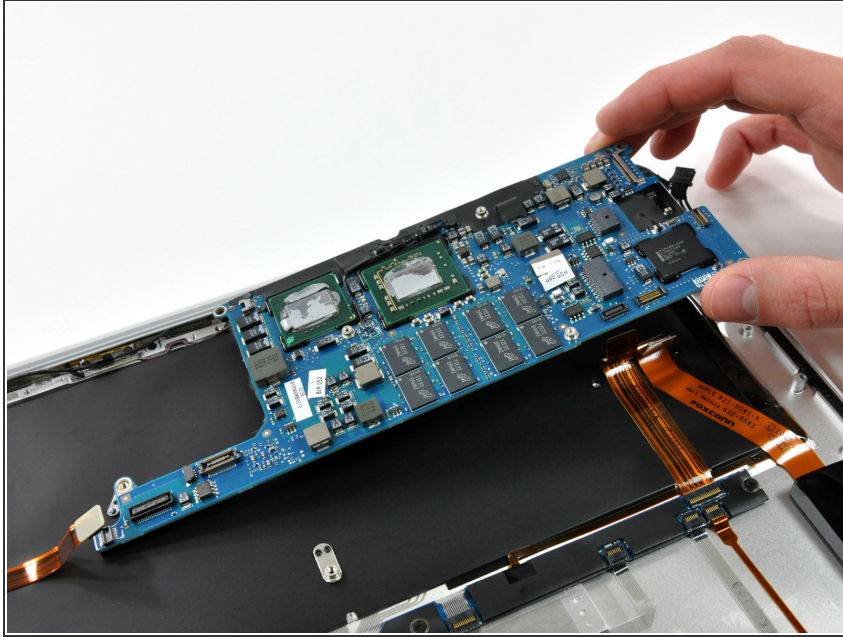
- Remove the small Phillips screw securing the display data cable ground loop to the upper case.
- Disconnect the display data cable by pulling its connector straight away from the socket on the logic board.

Step 24



- Remove the three Phillips screws securing the logic board to the upper case.

Step 25



- Lift the logic board out of the upper case.

To reassemble your device, follow these instructions in reverse order.

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